

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for tracking a process comprising the steps of:

providing a computer readable medium;

identifying a class of participants;

identifying a class of monitoring individuals who monitor the progress of a process through a global computer network;

providing selective access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network to the monitoring individuals;

inputting the process into the computer readable medium;

instructing a first service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a first task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium;

receiving the first service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium;

automatically notifying pre-selected participants and monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the first task is completed;

instructing a second service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a second task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium, wherein once the first service provider has completed the first task and the second service provider has been instructed to begin the second task, the first service provider's access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network becomes limited;

receiving the second service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium;

and

automatically notifying the pre-selected participants and the monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the second task is completed.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising giving a deadline wherein the deadline is either a specific date or a floating period.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising modifying the process.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the process is linear.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the process is parallel.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the process is linear and parallel.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first service provider's progress report includes the first service provider's work product.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~once the first service provider has completed the first task and the second service provider has been instructed to begin the second task, the first service provider's access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network becomes limited~~ by a process selected from the group of:

limiting the first service provider's access to read-only access; and

changing the global computer network universal resource locators.

9. (currently amended) A computer program product for implementing within a computer system a method for progress tracking, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium for providing computer program code means utilized to implement the method, wherein the computer program code means is comprised of executable code for implementing the steps of:

identifying a class of participants;

identifying a class of monitoring individuals who monitor the progress of a process through a global computer network;

providing selective access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network to the monitoring individuals;

inputting the process into the computer readable medium;

instructing a first service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a first task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium;

receiving the first service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium;

automatically notifying pre-selected participants and monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the first task is completed;

instructing a second service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a second task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium, wherein once the first service provider has completed the first task and the second service provider has been instructed

to begin the second task, the first service provider's access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network becomes limited;

receiving the second service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium; and

automatically notifying the pre-selected participants and the monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the second task is completed.

10. (original) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the computer program code means further comprises executable code for implementing the step of giving a deadline wherein the deadline is either a specific date or a floating period.

11. (original) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the computer program code means further comprises executable code for implementing the step of modifying the process.

12. (original) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the process is linear.

13. (original) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the process is parallel.

14. (original) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the process is linear and parallel.

15. (original) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the first service provider's progress report includes the first service provider's work product.

16. (currently amended) A system containing a computer program product, the product comprising:

a computer readable medium for providing computer program code means utilized to implement the method, wherein the computer program code means is comprised of executable code for implementing the steps of:

identifying a class of participants;

identifying a class of monitoring individuals who monitor the progress of a process through a global computer network;

providing selective access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network to the monitoring individuals;

inputting the process into the computer readable medium;

instructing a first service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a first task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium;

receiving the first service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium;

automatically notifying pre-selected participants and monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the first task is completed;

instructing a second service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a second task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium, wherein once the first service provider has completed the first task and the second service provider has been instructed to begin the second task, the first service provider's access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network becomes limited;

receiving the second service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium; and

automatically notifying the pre-selected participants and the monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the second task is completed.

17. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the computer program code means further comprises executable code for implementing the step of giving a deadline wherein the deadline is either a specific date or a floating period.

18. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the computer program code means further comprises executable code for implementing the step of modifying the process.

19. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the process is linear.

20. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the process is parallel.

21. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the process is linear and parallel.

22. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the first service provider's progress report includes the first service provider's work product.

23. (currently amended) A method for tracking a process comprising the steps of:

- providing a computer readable medium;
- identifying a class of participants;
- identifying a class of monitoring individuals who monitor the progress of a process through a global computer network;
- providing selective access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network to the monitoring individuals;
- inputting the process into the computer readable medium;
- instructing a first service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a first task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium;
- receiving the first service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium;
- automatically notifying only a second service provider and the monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the first task is completed;
- instructing ~~a~~the second service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a second task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium, wherein once the first service provider has completed the first task and the second service provider has been instructed to begin the second task, the first service provider's access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network becomes limited;

receiving the second service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium;  
and

automatically notifying the pre-selected participants and the monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the second task is completed.

24. (currently amended) A method for tracking a process comprising the steps of:  
providing a computer readable medium;  
identifying a class of participants;  
identifying a class of monitoring individuals who monitor the progress of a process through a global computer network;  
providing selective access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network to the monitoring individuals;  
inputting the process into the computer readable medium;  
instructing a first service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a first task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium;

providing an original group of data that the first service provider manipulates to generate a manipulated group of data;

providing access to ~~a~~ the manipulated group of data and the original group of data to the second service provider for further manipulation;

automatically notifying pre-selected participants and monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the first task is completed;



instructing a second service provider in the class of participants through a message sent over the global computer network to begin a second task in the process and to report progress via the computer readable medium, wherein once the first service provider has completed the first task and the second service provider has been instructed to begin the second task, the first service provider's access to the computer readable medium through the global computer network becomes limited;

receiving the second service provider's progress report to the computer readable medium;  
and

automatically notifying the pre-selected participants and the monitoring individuals through a message sent over the global computer network when the second task is completed.

25. (original) The method of claim 24, wherein the original group of data is categorized, creating a categorized group of data while leaving the original group of data in its pristine state.